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09/932,621	08/17/2001	Yuichiro Deguchi	SONY-02800	6301	
36813 7590 04/16/2008 O'BANION & RITCHEY LLP/ SONY ELECTRONICS, INC. 400 CAPITOL MALL			EXAM	EXAMINER	
			HASHEM, LISA		
SUITE 1550 SACRAMENTO, CA 95814		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER		
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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Application No. Applicant(s) 09/932,621 DEGUCHI, YUICHIRO Office Action Summary Examiner Art Unit LISA HASHEM 2614 -- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS. WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). Status 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 04 January 2008. 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 1-27.30-32.34-37 and 41-43 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 1-27, 30-32, 34-37, 41-43 is/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement. Application Papers 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are; a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abevance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner, Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152. Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f). a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of: Certified copies of the priority documents have been received. 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)). * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received. Attachment(s)

1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

Information Diselesure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/CC)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date

Interview Summary (PTO-413)
 Paper No(s)/Mail Date.

6) Other:

5) Notice of Informal Patent Amication

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DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

 Applicant's arguments, see Amendment, filed 1-4-08, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-27, 30-32,34-37 and 41-43 have been fully considered and are persuasive. Therefore, the rejection has been withdrawn. However, upon further consideration, a new ground(s) of rejection is made.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

- The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- Claims 1-27, 30-32, 34-37 and 41-43 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being obvious over U.S. Pat. Appl. No. 2002/0145943 by Tree in view of U.S. Pat. No. 6,912,514 by Matsushima et al. hereinafter Matsushima.

The applied reference (Tree) has a common assignee with the instant application. Based upon the earlier effective U.S. filing date of the reference, it constitutes prior art only under 35 U.S.C. 102(e). This rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) might be overcome by: (1) a showing under 37 CFR 1.132 that any invention disclosed but not claimed in the reference was derived from the inventor of this application and is thus not an invention "by another"; (2) a showing of a date of invention for the claimed subject matter of the application which corresponds to subject matter disclosed but not claimed in the reference, prior to the effective U.S. filing date of the reference under 37 CFR 1.131; or (3) an oath or declaration under 37 CFR 1.130 stating that the

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application and reference are currently owned by the same party and that the inventor named in the application is the prior inventor under 35 U.S.C. 104, together with a terminal disclaimer in accordance with 37 CFR 1.321(c). This rejection might also be overcome by showing that the reference is disqualified under 35 U.S.C. 103(c) as prior art in a rejection under 35 U.S.C. 103(a). See MPEP § 706.02(l)(1) and § 706.02(l)(2).

Regarding claim 1, Tree discloses a data marker integrated device communication system (Fig. 1), comprising:

a data marker integrated device configured to store a data mark in response to bookmarking of a broadcast clip (section 0025);

said data marker integrated device comprising a first device (Fig. 1, 100) which is configured for local, short range, wireless communication (section 0022; 0025);

a second device (i.e. gateway device, personal computer, a PDA, a WAP-enabled telephone, a mobile telephone) configured for establishing a first wireless communication connection (i.e. wireless, Bluetooth, IrDA) with the first device to receive said data mark from said first device (section 0022); and

said second device configured for establishing a separate second wireless connection (i.e. establishing an Internet connection with a server terminal):

a server (i.e. server terminal) configured to connect over said second wireless connection (i.e. Internet) to said second device (i.e. personal computer, a PDA, a WAP-enabled telephone, a mobile telephone) for data communication through said second device with said first device (section 0038);

5, lines 58-62; col. 8, lines 4-7).

concept.

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said second device configured for interfacing with a user in response to communication with said first device and/or said server (section 0038);

said server is configured for retrieving playlist data in response to receipt of said data mark from said first device (section 0038); and said server is configured for communicating over a data network with said second device (i.e. PDA, mobile telephone) so that said second device can access said playlist data through a user account on said server when connected over said data network (section 0017; 0022; 0024; 0031).

Tree discloses a second device configured for a first and a separate second wireless connectivity. However, Tree does not disclose a user terminal accessing said playlist data.

Matsushima discloses a communication system (Fig. 1), comprising:

a server (i.e. distribution server; Fig. 1, 101-108) is configured for retrieving playlist data (i.e. requested music content) including a data mark (i.e. title; artist name) from independent artists (col. 7, lines 1-22; col. 12, lines 53-65); and said server is configured for communicating over a data network with a user terminal (i.e. personal computer) (col. 5, lines 27-57) so that said user terminal can access said playlist data on said server when connected over said data network (col.

Again, Tree discloses the claimed system except Tree provides the second device to access the playlist rather than a user terminal. However, the claimed feature of a user terminal accessing a playlist was old and well known in the art. Matsushima clearly teaches such

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Tree to include a user terminal accessing said playlist data as

line 66 – col. 13, line 12).

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taught by Matsushima. In other words, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been lead to make such a modification of Tree to provide a user terminal, such as the user terminal of Matsushima, to the system of Tree so a user of Tree can access the playlist from a device in addition to the data marker integrated device.

Regarding claim 2, the system of claim 1, (Tree: section 0025).

Regarding claim 3, the system of claim 1, (Tree: section 0028; 0038).

Regarding claim 4, the system of claim 1, (Tree: section 0017; 0022; 0038).

Regarding claim 5, the system of claim 1, (Tree: section 0022; 0031).

Regarding claim 6, the system of claim 1, (Tree: section 0022; 0028; 0031).

Regarding claim 7, the system of claim 6, (Tree: section 0022; 0031).

Regarding claim 8, the system of claim 7, (Tree: section 0022; 0031; Matsushima: col.

Regarding claim 9, the system of claim 1, (Tree: section 0024; 0038).

Regarding claim 10, the system of claim 1, (Tree: section 0022; 0038).

Regarding claim 11, the system of claim 10, (Tree: section 0038).

Regarding claim 12, the system of claim 11, (Tree: section 0024; 0038).

Regarding claim 13, the system of claim 11, (Tree: section 0024; 0038).

Regarding claim 14, the system of claim 13, (Tree; section 0024; 0038; 0039).

Regarding claim 15, the system of claim 1, (Matsushima: col. 12, lines 53-65).

Regarding claim 16, the system of claim 15, (Matsushima: col. 5, lines 27-57).

Regarding claim 17, the system of claim 15, (Matsushima: col. 8, lines 4-7).

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Regarding claim 18, the system of claim 15, (Tree: section 0022; Matsushima: col. 7, lines 1-22).

Regarding claim 19, the system of claim 18, (Tree: section 0024; 0028; Matsushima: col. 7, lines 1-22).

Regarding claim 20, Tree discloses a method, comprising:

storing a data mark within a data marking device, as a first device (Fig. 1, 100), in response to bookmarking of a broadcast clip (section 0025);

receiving, within a second device (i.e. gateway device, personal computer, a PDA, a WAP-enabled telephone, a mobile telephone), said stored data mark from said first device through a first wireless connection (i.e. wireless, Bluetooth, IrDA) (section 0022; 0025);

establishing a second wireless connection (i.e. establishing an Internet connection with a server terminal) from said second device to a server (i.e. server terminal) (section 0038); transmitting said received data mark over said second wireless connection to a user account

within a server (section 0038);

retrieving information corresponding to said marked data from a storage unit coupled to said server (section 0024; 0028; 0038); establishing an internet connection between said server and said second device (i.e. gateway device, personal computer, a PDA, a WAP-enabled telephone, a mobile telephone); and

accessing information corresponding to said marked data within said user account on said server through said second device (section 0017; 0022; 0024; 0031).

Tree discloses a second device configured for a first and a separate second wireless connectivity. However, Tree does not disclose a user terminal accessing said information.

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Matsushima discloses a method, comprising:

a server (i.e. distribution server; Fig. 1, 101-108) is configured for retrieving information (i.e. requested music content) related to marked data (i.e. title; artist name) from independent artists (col. 7, lines 1-22; col. 12, lines 53-65); and

establishing an internet connection between said server and a user terminal (i.e. personal computer) (col. 5, lines 27-57; col. 5, lines 58-62; col. 8, lines 4-7);

and accessing information corresponding to said marked data on said server through said user terminal (col. 5, lines 58-62; col. 8, lines 4-7).

Again, Tree discloses the claimed method except Tree provides the second device to access the information rather than a user terminal. However, the claimed feature of a user terminal accessing information related to marked data was old and well known in the art.

Matsushima clearly teaches such concept.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Tree to include a user terminal accessing said information as taught by Matsushima. In other words, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been lead to make such a modification of Tree to provide a user terminal, such as the user terminal of Matsushima, to the method of Tree so a user of Tree can access the information from a device in addition to the data marker integrated device.

Regarding claim 21, (Tree: section 0022; 0031).

Regarding claim 22, the method of claim 20, (Tree: section 0024; 0038).

Regarding claim 23, the method of claim 22, (Tree: section 0024; 0038).

Regarding claim 24, the method of claim 20, (Tree: section 0017)

Regarding claim 25, the method of claim 20, (Tree: section 0024; 0038).

Regarding claim 26, the method of claim 25, (Tree: section 0024; 0038).

Regarding claim 27, the method of claim 25, (Tree: section 0024; 0038; 0039).

Regarding claim 30, the method of claim 20, (Tree: section 0024; 0028; Matsushima: col. 7. lines 1-22).

Regarding claim 31, Tree discloses a method, comprising:

storing a data mark within a data marking device, as a first device (Fig. 1, 100), in response to bookmarking of a broadcast clip (section 0025);

transmitting said stored data mark, contemporaneous with storing of said data mark (section 0022; 0028; 0031), from a first wireless connection (i.e. wireless, Bluetooth, IrDA) of said first device through a Bluetooth protocol connection to a second device (i.e. gateway device, personal computer, a PDA, a WAP-enabled telephone, a mobile telephone) (section 0022; 0025; 0031); receiving said transmitted data mark by said second device (section 0022; 0025; 0031); said second device comprising a mobile device configured for establishing a Bluetooth protocol connection and a separate second communication connection having a longer range that said Bluetooth protocol connection (i.e. Internet) (section 0022; 0025; 0031; 0038); transmitting said received data mark through a wireless connection which is separate from said

transmitting said received data mark through a wireless connection which is separate from said Bluetooth protocol connection, to a server (section 0024; 0031; 0038);

retrieving information corresponding to said marked data by said server (i.e. server terminal) (section 0024; 0031; 0038);

establishing an internet connection between said server and said second device (i.e. gateway device, personal computer, a PDA, a WAP-enabled telephone, a mobile telephone); and

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accessing information corresponding to said marked data on said server through said second device (section 0017; 0022; 0024; 0031).

Tree discloses a second device configured for a first and a separate second wireless connectivity. However, Tree does not disclose a user terminal accessing said information.

Matsushima discloses a method, comprising:

terminal (col. 5, lines 58-62; col. 8, lines 4-7).

Matsushima clearly teaches such concept.

a server (i.e. distribution server; Fig. 1, 101-108) is configured for retrieving information (i.e. requested music content) related to marked data (i.e. title; artist name) from independent artists (col. 7, lines 1-22; col. 12, lines 53-65); and establishing an internet connection between said server and a user terminal (i.e. personal

computer) (col. 5, lines 27-57; col. 5, lines 58-62; col. 8, lines 4-7); and accessing information corresponding to said marked data on said server through said user

Again, Tree discloses the claimed method except Tree provides the second device to access the information rather than a user terminal. However, the claimed feature of a user terminal accessing information related to marked data was old and well known in the art.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method of Tree to include a user terminal accessing said information as taught by Matsushima. In other words, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been lead to make such a modification of Tree to provide a user terminal, such as the user terminal of Matsushima, to the method of Tree so a user of Tree can access the information from a device in addition to the data marker integrated device.

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Regarding claim 32, the method of claim 31, (Tree: section 0024; 0038).

Regarding claim 34, the method of claim 31, (Tree: section 0017).

Regarding claim 35, the method of claim 31, (Tree: section 0024; 0038).

Regarding claim 36, the method of claim 35, (Tree: section 0024; 0038).

Regarding claim 37, the method of claim 31, (Tree: section 0024; 0038; 0039).

Regarding claim 41, (Tree: section 0024; 0028; Matsushima: col. 7, lines 1-22).

Regarding claim 42, Tree discloses a data marker integrated device communication system (Fig. 1), comprising:

means for storing a data mark within a data marking device, as a first device (Fig. 1, 100), in response to bookmarking of a broadcast clip (section 0025);

means for receiving stored data mark through a first wireless connection (i.e. wireless, Bluetooth, IrDA) by a second device (i.e. gateway device, personal computer, a PDA, a WAP-enabled telephone, a mobile telephone) (section 0022; 0025; 0031);

means for establishing a second wireless connection from said second device to a server (i.e. server terminal) (section 0024; 0031; 0038);

wherein said first wireless connection is a local, short range, wireless protocol that differs from said second wireless connection (section 0022; 0025; 0031; 0038);

means for transmitting said received data mark using said second wireless connection to said server;

means of retrieving information corresponding to said marked data by said server (section 0024; 0031; 0038);

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means of establishing an internet connection between said server and said second device (i.e. gateway device, personal computer, a PDA, a WAP-enabled telephone, a mobile telephone); means of accessing information corresponding to said marked data on said server through said second device (section 0017; 0022; 0024; 0031).

Tree discloses a second device configured for a first and a separate second wireless connectivity. However, Tree does not disclose a user terminal accessing said information.

Matsushima discloses a system (Fig. 1), comprising:

means for configuring a server (i.e. distribution server; Fig. 1, 101-108) for retrieving information (i.e. requested music content) related to marked data (i.e. title; artist name) from independent artists (col. 7, lines 1-22; col. 12, lines 53-65); and means for establishing an internet connection between said server and a user terminal (i.e. personal computer) (col. 5, lines 27-57; col. 5, lines 58-62; col. 8, lines 4-7); and means for accessing information corresponding to said marked data on said server through said user terminal (col. 5, lines 58-62; col. 8, lines 4-7).

Again, Tree discloses the claimed system except Tree provides the second device to access the information rather than a user terminal. However, the claimed feature of a user terminal accessing information related to marked data was old and well known in the art.

Matsushima clearly teaches such concept.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Tree to include a user terminal accessing said information as taught by Matsushima. In other words, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been lead to make such a modification of Tree to provide a user terminal, such as the user terminal of

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Matsushima, to the system of Tree so a user of Tree can access the information from a device in addition to the data marker integrated device.

Regarding claim 43, Tree discloses a data marker integrated device communication system (Fig. 1), comprising:

means for storing a data mark within a data marking device, as a first device (Fig. 1, 100), in response to bookmarking a broadcast clip (section 0025);

means for transmitting said stored data mark through a Bluetooth protocol connection which provides a first wireless connection (i.e. wireless, Bluetooth, IrDA) to a second device (i.e. gateway device, personal computer, a PDA, a WAP-enabled telephone, a mobile telephone) (section 0022; 0025; 0031);

means for receiving said transmitted data mark within said second wireless device; means for transmitting said received data mark through a second wireless connection, which is separate from said first wireless connection, to a server;

means for retrieving information corresponding to said marked data by said server (section 0024; 0031; 0038);

means of establishing an internet connection between said server and said second device (i.e. gateway device, personal computer, a PDA, a WAP-enabled telephone, a mobile telephone); and means of accessing information corresponding to said marked data on said server through said second device (section 0017; 0022; 0024; 0031).

Tree discloses a second device configured for a first and a separate second wireless connectivity. However, Tree does not disclose a user terminal accessing said information.

Matsushima discloses a system (Fig. 1), comprising:

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means for configuring a server (i.e. distribution server; Fig. 1, 101-108) for retrieving information (i.e. requested music content) related to marked data (i.e. title; artist name) from independent artists (col. 7, lines 1-22; col. 12, lines 53-65); and means for establishing an internet connection between said server and a user terminal (i.e. personal computer) (col. 5, lines 27-57; col. 5, lines 58-62; col. 8, lines 4-7); and means for accessing information corresponding to said marked data on said server through said user terminal (col. 5, lines 58-62; col. 8, lines 4-7).

Again, Tree discloses the claimed system except Tree provides the second device to access the information rather than a user terminal. However, the claimed feature of a user terminal accessing information related to marked data was old and well known in the art.

Matsushima clearly teaches such concept.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the system of Tree to include a user terminal accessing said information as taught by Matsushima. In other words, one of ordinary skill in the art would have been lead to make such a modification of Tree to provide a user terminal, such as the user terminal of Matsushima, to the system of Tree so a user of Tree can access the information from a device in addition to the data marker integrated device.

Double Patenting

4. The nonstatutory double patenting rejection is based on a judicially created doctrine grounded in public policy (a policy reflected in the statute) so as to prevent the unjustified or improper timewise extension of the "right to exclude" granted by a patent and to prevent possible harassment by multiple assignees. A nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting rejection is appropriate where the conflicting claims are not identical, but at least one examined application claim is not patentably distinct from the reference claim(s) because the examined application claim is either anticipated by, or would have been obvious over, the reference claim(s). See, e.g., In re Berg, 140 F.3d 1428, 46 USPQ2d 1226 (Fed. Cir. 1998); In re Goodman, 11 F.3d 1046, 29

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USPQ2d 2010 (Fed. Cir. 1993); In re Longi, 759 F.2d 887, 225 USPQ 645 (Fed. Cir. 1985); In re Van Q7mum, 686 F.2d 937, 214 USPQ 761 (CCPA 1982); In re Vogel, 422 F.2d 438, 164 USPQ 619 (CCPA 1970); and In re Thorington. 418 F.2d 528, 163 USPQ 644 (CCPA 1969).

- 5. A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.
- Effective January 1, 1994, a registered attorney or agent of record may sign a terminal disclaimer. A terminal disclaimer signed by the assignee must fully comply with 37 CFR 3.73(b).
- 7. Claims 1-27, 30-32, 34-37, and 41-43 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-18 of U. S. Patent No. 7,127,454 and claims 1-26 of U.S. Patent No. 7,107,234. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other.

Claims 1-18 of the '454 patent and claims 1-26 of the '234 patent pertain to the same subject matter as the instant application including: '...a data marking device configured to store a data mark in response to bookmarking of a broadcast clip...', '...a second device to receive said data mark from said data marking device...', and '...a server for retrieving playlist data in response to receipt of said data mark from said data marking device...'.

8. Claims 1-27, 30-32, 34-37, and 41-43 are rejected on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as being unpatentable over claims 1-12 of U.S. Patent No. 7,190,971, claims 1-17 of U.S. Pat. No. 7,062,528, and claims 1-61 of U.S. Patent No. 6,578,047. Although the conflicting claims are not identical, they are not patentably distinct from each other because both patents pertain to the same subject matter as the instant application.

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including: '...a device storing information providing a means by which content elements may be identified by an external means, such as a server...'.

.....,,

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the patents to provide a data marking device configured to store a data mark in response to bookmarking of a broadcasting clip or music file in order to store and remind a user of preferred content selected by the user.

Conclusion

 The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. See PTO-892 Form

10. Any response to this action should be mailed to:

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Or faxed to:

(571) 273-8300 (for formal communications intended for entry)

Or call:

(571) 272-2600 (for customer service assistance)

11. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LISA HASHEM whose telephone number is (571)272-7542. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:30-5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Fan Tsang can be reached on (571) 272-7547. Any inquiry of a general nature or

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relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the Group

receptionist whose telephone number is (571) 272-2600.

12. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

/Fan Tsang/

Supervisory Patent Examiner, Art Unit 2614

/Lisa Hashem/

Examiner, Art Unit 2614

April 10, 2008